

3/20/73

Dear Cedric,

Last time I was in Washington I went to the IPS, as I told you I would, to consult. Nobody was in and nobody called me. I had to go to Washington today, so I left early, made that my first stop, with substantially the same result, except that I waited for an hour and I saw Raskin, but he was too busy to talk. I had hoped to see Kotlor's assistant or associate, as I did last time, but if she came in I didn't see her and she wasn't told I was waiting for her.

My view is unchanged, that any effort at intercession with officialdom by me would be unwise for you because they are all pretty unhappy with me. I would be but another number and according to Ian they have had ample mail.

If you are unaware of it, Richard Barnett, of the IPS, is in Mexico and will be there until September. He is also a lawyer.

Ian spoke to a number of people, including Mansfield's office. He gathers they do not feel that if they made a fire it would be a hot one.

Ian will do a story. I spoke to him after you wrote me. He spoke to me before and after he wrote you and after he spoke to you. We also spent Saturday afternoon with him and his wife. He has a clear understanding of "still considering" and knows it is a polite way of refusing that can be made to appear as not a refusal.

There are other things like this I can do and am willing to do, but I think it would be irresponsible if I were to go off on my own. There is a net TV news assignment editor I could speak to in Washington and I might think of others.

If you decide to write papers and know nobody at the Washington Post (1150 15 St., NW, 20005) Ben Bradlee is executive editor and runs it. Richard Harwood is national editor. The last person they had in Mexico of whom I know is Larry Stern, formerly national editor and now promoted to something like thinker-in-residence. None are fond of me. We've hassled. Someone, I suspect Bradlee, killed a 24-page Sunday story on me in which I had taken no initiative and on which a lot of work had been done. By an odd coincidence, the managing editor of the Sunday magazine, who conceived and wrote the story, is no longer managing editor of that magazine. Jack Anderson is at 1612 K St., NW. I knew Pearson but don't know him and he has a policy position ~~on~~ against my side of the assassinations. He kills good exclusives on them, so I'm no help there. He and the Post, however, are feuding with the administration which has been trying to hurt both. It arrested an Anderson legman and is trying to get the Post's unpublished files on the Watergate scandal. Either might be prompted to ask why you are so dangerous and why the government is hiding its reasons and its actions while it is trying to get around the Constitution with writers, including them.

Good luck, chins up,

best,